

It was

A FULL PLATE

of reservoir work for the Tulsa District from day one, July 1, 1939. The District had an edge, starting off, in several important areas.

The new District also inherited two projects — Great Salt Plains and Fort Supply — under construction by the Little Rock District.

Another early job, one of the most cost-effective in District history, was constructing levees along the Arkansas River through the City of Tulsa. This \$3 million project was completed during World War II and would prevent more than \$250 million in flood damages over the next 42 years.

From the outset

THE LUCK OF THE DRAW

was with the Tulsa District, and the hands dealt were fortunate in many ways

- ☐ The place was ripe and rich — ripe for water resources development and rich in resources. Its needs were obvious, its opportunities overwhelming.
- ☐ And it was right. The plans were right. The program was laid out early with sound yet visionary plans, the far-reaching effects of which would have frightened more timid planners.
- ☐ The leadership was right. Over the long term, the region generated the political will and muscle to carry out those plans, despite the odds and entrenched opposition.
- ☐ The local politics were, momentarily, right. When the historic 1936 flood control act was passed, Oklahoma was ready, thanks to Oklahoma Gov. E.W. Marland, an advocate of water resources projects. Only two states, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania, had approved legislation

